

Riverside Neighborhood Partnership

Minutes

October, 1, 2001, 6:30pm

Mayor's Ceremonial Room

City Hall – 7th Floor

Members Present:

Manuel Carrasco, Chair; David McNeil, John Strzelewicz, Tom Martin, Jaime Hurtado, Marie Leggette, Phyllis Wells, Rosie Francisco, Richard Burns, Barbara Brown, Paul Fick, Nancy Hart

Excused: Richard Ramirez, Patrick Williams

Absent: Bob Holstein, John Garcia, Ernie Hautala, Ed Adkison, Dana Kruckenburg

Guests: K. N. Robson

Staff: Martha Matus, Office of Neighborhoods

1. Welcome/Self-Introductions

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Manuel Carrasco at 6:35pm. Self-introductions followed.

2. Approval of Minutes – September 10, 2001

General consent on approval of the minutes from September 10, 2001; with no corrections having been requested, minutes approved by chairman.

3. Reports from Subcommittees

A. Jack B. Clarke Good Neighbor Award – Jaime Hurtado, Chair

Jaime reported that 21 JBC nominations were received. The subcommittee decided to take the nominations home to review and meet on October 12, 2001, to select the JBC winner. A wall plaque and JBC perpetual plaque will be presented to the recipient at the Awards Ceremony and the Mayor's Annual State of the Neighborhood Address on November 17th. All nominees will receive a letter of recognition.

B. Neighborhood Pride Awards – David McNeil, Chair

David reported that the subcommittee needs more nominees from all Areas represented by the RNP. Anyone may submit nominations by calling the Office of Neighborhoods. The judges will be given a ranking sheet and the Office will be tallying the sheets to select the winners for each area. Brenda Flowers will photograph the top winners for each area. The area representatives from each area will serve as Neighborhood Pride Award judges. Each of the five (5) areas will select the top three award winners for a total of 15 awards. Awards will be lucite acrylic trophies, wall plaques, yard signs, and all nominees will receive a certificate. The awards will be presented at the Mayor's First Annual State of the Neighborhood Address on November 17th.

4. Dangermond Group's Workshops re: Update on the Park and Recreation Open Space Element of the General Plan

After some discussion, the committee decided to support the Dangermond Group study and support their neighborhood workshops.

(Martin/Leggette/Carried)

Discussion was held regarding the committee's support of the Parks. Parks are a major concern for the committee. Special attention by the committee was suggested since parks are the first to get hit by budget cuts. Currently, there is \$27 million budgeted for Park improvements for the year 2001-2002.

5. Day Laborer concerns in the Casa Blanca Neighborhood

John Garcia is not present to discuss the issue and the committee decided to postpone the item.

6. Neighborhood Conference

Martha reported that the Neighborhood Conference is a huge responsibility and stresses full support from the committee to plan and organize. The conference may be held in May 2002, in conjunction with the Neighborhood Pride and JBC awards ceremony.

The Office of Neighborhoods recommends that the committee consider having a Leadership Training Seminar in lieu of the Neighborhood Conference this year in order to provide services that neighborhood leaders need to establish and build up neighborhood organization membership. After committee discussion, Tom suggested that this item be agendaized for the next meeting to obtain more information.

7. Results of the Sick Building Syndrome problem at Alvord Unified School District

Manuel reported on the Sick Building Syndrome problem at Alvord Unified School District's classrooms. Sick Building Syndrome is "toxic materials that may cause symptoms such as runny noses, nose bleeds, exhaustion, and rashes" (handouts). Manuel asked the committee to spread the word to their neighbors and friends and call attention to the district office regarding their concerns of this matter.

8. Future agenda items

- **Neighborhood Conference and/or Leadership Training Seminars** – Staff
- **Disaster Preparedness Representative to present City of Riverside emergency plan and to help develop a neighborhood emergency plan.** Manuel Carrasco
- **Building RNP membership** – Manuel Carrasco

9. Other Business

- David reported on the new Cridge Street Community Association (Eastside Neighborhood) that came together to address traffic and lighting issues. David will keep the RNP informed as to the happenings of this group. Many of the residents of this group are long-term renters and the changing demographics of the area has changed primarily to Hispanic and Spanish speaking individuals. The neighborhood group has bilingual neighbors who will maintain open communication with Spanish speaking residents.
- David reported on the quarterly meeting of the Southern California Neighborhood Partners which was hosted by the City of Riverside's Office of Neighborhoods on September 22, 2001 held at the Boathouse at Fairmount Park. Ken reported that Eva had

an excellent Office of Neighborhoods presentation and David's Heritage Square historical presentation was informative and inspiring.

- Tom noted that the Ed Adkison is not present for the second time. Patrick Williams notified committee of resignation. Jaime suggested that the committee vacancies be announced at the UCR Working Group meeting for possible candidates. Staff will notify the Nominating and Screening Committee to help fill vacancies.
- David updated the committee on his findings regarding moving of utilities lines underground. The Utility Board meets on the 1st and 3rd Friday of the month, which David will attend.

10. Next Meeting: November 5, 2001, 6:30 p.m. Location to be announced.

- Manuel suggested that the roving meetings not be scheduled at Alvord Unified School District schools until after January 2002. He recommended that committee members invite other interested parties and neighborhood groups.
- Nancy suggested that the November 5th meeting be held at Bryant Park Community Center. Martha will check into the availability of the center.
- Richard Burns volunteered to host one of the upcoming meetings but will get back to us on the date.

11. Adjournment

Meeting notes prepared by the Office of Neighborhoods